UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22423
1 April 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that members of the United States armed forces occupying the territory of Iraq are patrolling at the Ur archaeological site in the governorate of Dhi Qar. You are well aware of the historical and cultural importance of the Ur archaeological site as the centre of one of the most ancient of the human civilizations that arose in Mesopotamia and as containing archaeological treasures of inestimable value. Since the presence of the United States occupation troops at this archaeological site brings with it the danger that these troops may tamper with and cause destruction to the site, we alert the United Nations, the countries and peoples of the world and world organizations for culture and heritage to their responsibilities in preventing interference with this human legacy.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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